techno-economic clearance to set set-up gas-based power station at Gandhar in Gujarat;

(c) whether it is also a fact that enough gas will be available at Gandhar for the setting up of this power station; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) During the period April—June, 1989, Gujarat faced a marginal energy shortage of 3 per cent.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The present indications are that gas for the setting up of a 600 MW project at Gandhar would be available. The proposal would be processed further after the availability of gas has been tied up.

Representations for inclusion of drugs in category-II

1436. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1588 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th May, 1989, and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government received representations against wrong exclusion from category-II of Noscepine, Methdilazine Hcl, Oxyfedearine Triprolidine Hcl, Polymixin B Sulphate and Thioridazine Hcl;

(b) if so, when the representations were received, source from which received and what were the grounds given in the representations;

(c) whether Government considered those representations and if so, what was the Government's decision and each of these representations;

(d) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee did not touch open these drugs or representations concerning these drugs in its supplementary report;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(f) whether his Ministry would refer back these representation to Kalkar Committee; and

(g) if so, by when and if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) to (g). The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Abolition of Royalty rights of States on hydel project

1437. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government propose to abolish the States' royalty rights on hydel projects in the Central Sector;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this move would weaken the States economically?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Under the existing arrangements for the allocaton of power and benefits from the Central Sector Hydroelectric Pojects, cash compensation is payable to the "home states" in respect of energy generated at those Hydroelectric Projects investment decision for whose execution in the Central Sector was taken prior to 12th February 1985; in respect of Central Hydel projects taken up after this date, the "home states" would be entitled to only 12 per cent free power, in addition to their normal entitlement as per the prescribed formula. No decision to change this arrangement has so far been taken.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Energy plantation demonstration programme

1438. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken an 'Energy Plantation Demonstration Programme' to utilise the wasteland for energy plantation in various States/ Union Territories; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The main objectives of the programme are:

(i) to provide fuelwood for cooking needs of the domestic sector,

(ii) to generate employment potential in the rural sector.

(iii) to improve the soil fertility of wastelands through an increased organic matter content and decreased soil erosion;

(iv) to bring about awareness regarding fast-growing species appropriate for wastelands; and

(v) to provide feed stock on a sustained basis for wood-based power conversion systems.

A number of energy plantation demonstration projects covering an area of 15,146.45 ha with several fast growing species have been sanctioned so far in fifteen States and Union Territories. This programme is directly linked with energy generation employment creation environmental protection wasteland utilisation and hence poverty allevation and sustained economic development.

1439. [Cancelled.]

Setting up of a Thermal Power Plant in Belthara road in Ballia District in Uttar Pradesh

1440. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has a proposal to set up a thermal power plant in Belthara Road situated in Ballia district; and

(b) if so; what decision; if any; has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b). A feasibility report in respect of installation of a thermal power plant (3x210 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 982.2 crores at Belthara Road, District Ballia was received by CEA in December, 1988 from the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB). The Central Electricity Authority can techno-economically appraise the proposal after essential inputs such as availability of fuel and water etc. are tied up and necessary clearances including from environmental and civil aviation angles have become available.

Coal transportation through pipeline

1441. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: